

Union Chapel M.B. Church

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JUDE

(Resources: *Wilmington Guide to the Bible and Illustrated Bible Survey: An Introduction*)

The Book of Jude is an important book for us today because it is written for the end times, for the end of the church age. The church age began at the Day of Pentecost. Jude is the only book given entirely to the great apostasy. Jude writes that evil works are evidence of apostasy. He admonishes us to contend for the faith, for there are tares among the wheat. False prophets are in the church, and the saints are in danger. Jude is a small but important book worthy of study, written for the Christian of today.

Apostasy, from the Greek word *apostasia*, means “a total desertion of, or departure from, one’s faith, principles, or party”; in theology, “a total abandonment of the Christian faith” (The Century Dictionary, vol. I, p. 265).

A. The Problem of Apostasy, vv 1-4 (Matt 13.25; Acts 15.24)

B. The Description of Apostasy, vv 4, 8, 10, 16, 19

- a. They are ungodly men (4)
- b. They twist God’s grace into licentiousness (no moral/legal restraint) (4)
- c. They deny & say harsh things about the Person and Work of Christ (4, 15)
- d. They are given over to sensuous dreams (8)
- e. They defile the flesh (theirs and others) (8)
- f. They reject both divine and human authority (8)
- g. They ridicule the existence of angels (8)
- h. They mock and curse at anything they do not understand (10)
- i. They “do their thing” like dumb and unreasoning animals (10)
- j. They are grumblers and fault-finders (16)
- k. They follow after their own lusts (16)
- l. They are arrogant (16)
- m. They flatter people, using flowery language for the sake of gaining an advantage (16)
- n. They are divisive (19)
- o. They are worldly-minded (19)
- p. They are devoid of the Spirit (19)

C. Historical Examples and Causes of Apostasy, vv 5-7, 9, 11

- a. Israel (5), Num 14; Heb 3.12, 18-19
- b. The angels (6), 2 Pet 2.4
- c. The citizens of Sodom and Gomorrah (7), Gen 19
- d. The devil (9) – indirect apostate
 - i. [Michael – Deu 34.5-6; Dan 10.13, 21; 12.1; Rev 12.7-9]
- e. Cain (11), Gen 4

- f. Balaam (11), Num 22-25
- g. Korah (11), Num 16

D. The Metaphors of Apostasy, 12-13

- a. Hidden rocks
- b. Waterless clouds
- c. Autumn trees
- d. Wild waves
- e. Wandering stars

E. The Judgement Upon Apostasy, 14-15

F. The Safeguards Against Apostasy, 17-18, 20-25

- a. We are to remember what Jesus said, Matt 24.4, 11-13
- b. We are to keep our spiritual eyes open, Rom 16.17-18; 1 John 4.1
- c. We are to build, Acts 20.32; Rom 10.17; 1 Peter 2.2
- d. We are to pray, Eph 6.18
- e. We are to keep ourselves in God's love (v1 'kept for Jesus')
- f. We are to anticipate the rapture
- g. We are to win the lost

Takeaways:

1. An immoral lifestyle leads to apostasy, Eccl 12.13
2. Remain faithful to Jesus in word and deed, 2 Thess 3.3

Notes: